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# COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

# STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, NOVEMBER 15, 2000

JOINT PETITION OF

NUI CORPORATION, VGC ACQUISITION, INC.

and

CASE NO. PUA000079

VIRGINIA GAS COMPANY

For approval of agreement and plan of merger under Chapter 5 of Title 56 of the Code of Virginia

# ORDER

On November 15, 2000, the Staff of the State Corporation

Commission ("Staff") filed a motion requesting that the

Commission extend the time by which the Staff shall file its

report in this proceeding, from November 17, 2000, to

November 22, 2000. In its motion, the Staff states that the

Petitioners, NUI Corporation, VGC Acquisition, Inc., and

Virginia Gas Company, were unable to respond to Staff data

requests in sufficient time to allow the Staff to file its

report by November 17, 2000. The Staff represented that counsel

for the Petitioners does not object to the requested extension.

The Staff further requested that the Commission establish a date

for the Petitioners to file a response to the Staff report.

Also, in our Order for Notice and Comment of October 10, 2000, the Commission provided for interested persons to file, on or before November 8, 2000, comments or requests for hearing on the joint petition. A number of persons have filed comments and requested a hearing.

NOW THE COMMISSION, upon consideration of the Staff's motion, is of the opinion that the filing extension requested by the Staff should be granted, that the Petitioners shall be permitted an opportunity to file a response to the Staff report, and that, pursuant to § 56-88.1 of the Code of Virginia, the sixty (60) day period for the Commission's consideration of the joint application shall be extended at this time for an additional sixty (60) day period. Any action in response to the requests for hearing will be by separate order of the Commission. Accordingly,

# IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- (1) The date for the Staff to file its report on the joint petition shall be extended from November 17, 2000, to November 22, 2000.
- (2) On or before December 13, 2000, the Petitioners may file with the Clerk of the Commission an original and fifteen (15) copies of any response to the Staff report.
- (3) Pursuant to § 56-88.1 of the Code of Virginia, the sixty (60) day period for the Commission's consideration of the

joint petition shall be extended at this time for an additional sixty (60) day period, from November 27, 2000, to January 26, 2001.